

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 02868 271530Z

ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 /019 W

-----097637 280120Z /13

R 271355Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4327

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 2868

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UY

SUBJ: JOSE LUIS MASSERA - URUGUAYAN CITIZEN

REF: A. MONTEVIDEO 2743 B. 76 MONTEVIDEO 3336

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON JOSE LUIS MASSERA HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM SAME RELIABLE SOURCE WHOSE REPORT WAS CONTAINED IN REFTEL A.

2. MASSERA HAS BEEN MOVED TO LIBERTAD PRISON. ALL SUBSOURCES, INCLUDING MASSERA HIMSELF, REPORT THAT HE IS IN GOOD PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION. HE IS ALLOWED TO RECEIVE FAMILY VISITS EVERY FIFTEEN DAYS AND VISITS FROM HIS LAWYERS (HE NOW HAS THREE) EVERY FIFTEEN DAYS. HE IS ALLOWED TO READ AND IS NOT ISOLATED. ONE NEGATIVE ASPECT OF HIS TREATMENT, WHICH OTHERWISE IS HUMANE, IS THAT WHEN HIS LAWYERS CAME TO VISIT HE WAS REQUIRED TO REMAIN STANDING FOR TWO HOURS IN ORDER TO TALK TO THEM. HE THERE ASKED THAT THEY VISIT HIM ONLY WHEN NECESSARY.

3. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, MASSERA IS CHARGED WITH SUBVERSIVE ASSOCIATION (ARTICLE 60 (V) OF THE MILITARY PENAL CODE, WHICH CARRIES A 6-TO-18 YEAR PRISON TERM). THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEFENSE IS ATTEMPTING TO REOPEN THE INSTRUCTION (INVESTIGATION-INDICTMENT) STAGE BY ARGUING THAT WHILE MASSERA WAS INDEED ACTING AS FIRST SECRETARY OF THE PCU WHEN ARRESTED, HE KNOW NOTHING OF THE PCU MILITARY APPARATUS, THE DISCOVERY OF WHICH WAS LINKED WITH HIS ARREST AND INDICTMENT. (SEE REFTEL B FOR OUR PREVIOUS COMMENTS ON THIS QUESTION.)

4. TO COUNTERACT THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN ON BEHALF OF MASSERA, THE GOU REPORTEDLY WILL PUBLICIZE A DOCUMENT SIGNED BY MASSERA IN WHICH HE STATES, INTER ALIA, THAT HIS LEG WAS BROKEN ACCIDENTLY (NOT BY TORTURE), THAT HE IS NOW WELL TREATED, AND THAT, WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT HE WAS PCU FIRST SECRETARY, HE WAS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CLANDESTINE MILITARY APPARATUS. SBUSOURCES SAY MASSERA'S LEG WAS BROKEN WHEN, WITH HIS LEGS TIED TOGETHER, HE WAS PUSHED BY A GUARD AND FELL. SOURCE SCOFFED AT THE IDEA THAT MASSERA KNOW NOTHING OF PCU MILITARY APPARATUS AND CONTINUES TO BE OF THE OPINION THAT MASSERA WILL BE HELD FOR A LENGTHY PERIOD. GOU, SOURCE BELIEVES, WILL ATTEMPT TO COUNTERACT ANY CAMPAIGN ON HIS BEHALF BY PUBLICIZING CHARGES AND BY CONTINUING WITH JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.  
HAAHR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ARRESTS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOSE LUIS MASSERA - URUGUAYAN CITIZEN  
**TAGS:** SHUM, UY, (MASSERA, JOSE LUIS)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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